

# COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



## PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, this week provides an opportunity to learn about the importance, diversity, function, and benefits of our 16.62 million acres of forestland, the function of forest management, and the multitude of wood products that originate from Penn's Woods; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth's forest products industry has an essential role in managing and improving working forests across the state, and has a tremendous impact of the forest products industry on Pennsylvania's economy as Pennsylvania continues to lead the nation in standing hardwood timber volume, hardwood lumber produced, and hardwood lumber exported; and

WHEREAS, consumers should utilize wood products from Pennsylvania, as wood is a renewable, durable, unique, beautiful, and home-healthy resource, and its utilization provides environmental benefits such as improved forest health, wildlife habitat, increased carbon storage through wood products and carbon sequestration through young forest growth; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania's forest products industry brings a wealth of knowledge to grow understanding of how conservation and sustainability practices lead to not only more diverse and robust forests, but also socio-economic benefits and educational opportunities on the enhancement of our forests and ensuring they are less susceptible to threats such as invasive pests, diseases, and underutilization; and

WHEREAS, many local and state groups have promoted and educated on Pennsylvania's forest products industry, including the Pennsylvania Hardwoods Development Council, Pennsylvania Game Commission, Pennsylvania Forest Products Association, Pennsylvania Forestry Association, Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group, Keystone Wood Products Association, Northern Tier Hardwood Association, and regional forest and woodland owners and groups.

THEREFORE, I, Josh Shapiro, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim October 15-21, 2023 to be

### PENNSYLVANIA FOREST PRODUCTS WEEK

I encourage all Pennsylvanians to participate in fun and educational gatherings to learn and appreciate the forests and forest products of our Commonwealth.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, on this thirteenth day of October two thousand twenty-three, the year of the Commonwealth the two hundred forty-eighth.

Governor Josh Shapiro